# The All Sky Automated Survey. The Catalog of Variable Stars in the Kepler Field of View

# A. Pigulski

Astronomical Institute, University of Wrocław, ul. Kopernika 11, 51-622 Wrocław, Poland e-mail:pigulski@astro.uni.wroc.pl

G. Pojmański, B. Pilecki and D. M. Szczygieł

Warsaw University Observatory, Al. Ujazdowskie 4, 00-478 Warszawa, Poland e-mail: (gp,pilecki,dszczyg)@astrouw.edu.pl

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#### ABSTRACT

We present the catalog of 947 variable stars located in the field of view of the Kepler satellite. The catalog is a result of the analysis of VI photometry obtained during the first 17-month observations in the ASAS3-North station. The variable stars we present are divided into eleven groups according to the presented variability; the groups are briefly discussed. The catalog is intended to be a source of information for target selection process and follow-up programs.

Key words: Stars: binaries - Stars: pulsations - Stars: classification

# 1. Introduction

The main scientific goal of the NASA Kepler<sup>†</sup> satellite mission (Borucki *et al.* 1997) is to search for extrasolar planets, especially in habitable zones, and to characterize the properties of the detected planetary systems. This will be achieved by means of a very precise photometry and transit detection. Over  $10^5$  targets from a sample of stars of different mass and age will be selected for observation. The properties of both planets and their parent stars, especially stellar radii, can be determined in some cases when the stars exhibit p-mode pulsations. This is why asteroseismic program has been included as a part of the Kepler mission (Christensen-Dalsgaard *et al.* 2007). In comparison with ground-based data, the advantage of Kepler observations will be a very high precision of photometry combined with a very long uninterrupted sequences of data. Thus, a problem with aliasing, inherently associated with the ground-based data, will be avoided. Due to the brightness

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup>The overview and status of the Kepler mission can be found at http://kepler.nasa.gov/

range (9–15 mag in V) and location in the sky, Kepler observations of pulsating stars will complement those of other satellite missions like MOST (Walker *et al.* 2003) and CoRoT (Barge *et al.* 2008).

The Kepler forty two  $2200 \times 1024$ -pixels CCD detectors will cover over a hundred square degrees in Cygnus, Lyra and Draco (see Fig. 4). Every three months the telescope will be rotated around the optical axis by  $90^{\circ}$ . Because of the symmetry of the detectors, the rotation will not affect the coverage of the sky (with only a small exception of a tiny fraction of the observed field close to the center of the Kepler field of view). In the course of the work on catalog which is presented in this paper, we considered only those stars that fall within the Kepler field of view (FoV). Other variables, located between or outside Kepler CCD chips, are not considered here. The catalog contains data for 947 variable and candidate variable stars and was released primarily because of the need of target selection for the first part of the mission.

#### 2. The Data, Reductions and Analysis

The data analyzed in this paper were obtained in the ASAS3-North station located at Haleakala (Maui, Hawaii Islands) using two wide-field instruments, equipped with Nikkor 200-mm f/2.0 lenses and Apogee AP-10,  $2048 \times 2048$  CCD cameras, collecting data in two filters, V and I. The data cover roughly 500 days between July 2006 and December 2007. Distribution of observations in time for an arbitrarily chosen star in the Kepler FoV is shown in Fig. 1. Typically, only one point per two or even four nights was obtained during the first year of observation; the frequency of observations in I was increased to several points per night in the second half of 2007. This way of observing results in window spectra shown in Fig. 1. They are characterized by strong daily aliasing, as expected. On average, the V-filter data set consisted of  $\approx 90$  measurements, while about 110 data points were available in the I-filter.

While searching for variability, we must also consider the problem of correct identification of variable stars. In the wide-field surveys, the frames have low spatial resolution which for the ASAS frames amounts to about 15"/pixel. The photometry in these frames is extracted through five different apertures with diameters ranging from 2 to 6 pixels corresponding to 0.5' to 1.5'. More details of image processing and reductions can be found in the previous ASAS papers (Pojmański 1997, 2002). In quite dense areas of the Kepler FoV, the low spatial resolution of ASAS frames poses obvious problems with contamination by nearby stars in the extracted photometry. In some cases, only follow-up observations with better resolution can help in proper identification of a variable star. We will return to this problem in Section 4.

The magnitudes of stars measured in the ASAS frames range from 7 mag to 15 mag in V and from 6 mag to 14 mag in I, thus very well overlap with the range

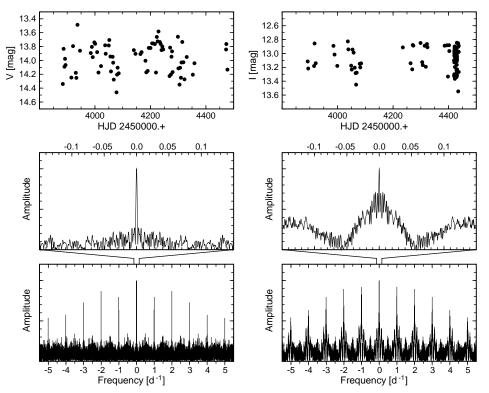


Fig. 1. *Upper panels:* Typical distribution of V (*left*) and I (*right*) ASAS data analyzed in this paper. *Lower panels:* Window spectra of the data shown in the *upper panels.* The central peak is shown in detail. Amplitudes are given in arbitrary units.

for Kepler targets. The observed field is located at intermediate Galactic latitudes  $(+6^{\circ} < b < +23^{\circ})$ . Both magnitude range and the location of the field in the sky has a direct consequence as to the variability that can be detected. For example, only a small number of early-type stars can be expected in the field.

The variability search was carried out using photometry in the intermediate aperture (diameter of 4 pixels) by means of Fourier amplitude periodogram calculated in the range between 0 and 30 d $^{-1}$ . All light curves and periodograms were inspected visually. The variability type was assigned taking into account the period, amplitude and/or the shape of the light curve. In total, 947 stars were selected as variable out of about 250 000 searched for variability.

# 3. Description of the Catalog

The catalog is available at:

http://www.astro.uni.wroc.pl/ldb/asas/kepler.html
and its mirror in the ASAS project web page:

http://www.astrouw.edu.pl/asas/?page=kepler

The main part of the catalog is the table that can be accessed and retrieved only

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through the web page; a detailed description of its contents can also be found there. The layout of the table is shown in Fig. 2. The table contains: equatorial coordinates, VI magnitudes from the ASAS, JHK<sub>s</sub> photometry from 2MASS catalog of point sources (Cutri et al. 2003) if a star was identified with a 2MASS source, type of variability, variability period or dominating period (if a star showed periodic or quasiperiodic behavior), variability ranges in V and I and remarks. As far as the type of variability is concerned, we decided to assign only eleven variability flags, although the catalog may include more types of variability. First of all, the eclipsing binaries are divided into three groups according to the shape of the light curve following the "General Catalog of Variable Stars" (GCVS) definitions: Algol-type (EA), β Lyr-type (EB) and W UMa-type (EW). Out of different types of pulsating stars, we distinguish only those which are easily recognizable by their period, shape of the light curve and/or amplitude, namely: RR Lyr stars of Bailey type ab and c (RRAB, RRC), high-amplitude δ Sct stars (HADS), Cepheids (CEP) and Miras (MIRA). The remaining stars are divided into three groups depending on how well periodicity is defined. Stars classified as PER are strictly periodic with sinusoidal light curves. Those with QPER variability flag have a dominating periodicity, but show also amplitude and/or phase changes or periodic changes superimposed on the variability on a longer time scale. Stars of this type are commonly referred to as semi-regular or long-period variables. Finally, stars that do not show any well-pronounced periodicity or the period is longer than the interval covered by the analyzed data, are designated as APER.

Table 1.	Variable stars in	n the Kepler Field found by	the <u>ASAS</u> Survey

	description. Pla	ASAS <u>Home Page</u> .					120,000		Heren					
No.	ID	RAd	DEC	٧	1	V-I	J	J-H	H-K	Type	Period	V_amp	I_amp	Rem
		[deg]	[deg]	[mag]	[mag]	[mag]	[mag]	[mag]	[mag]		[days]	[mag]	[mag]	
1	183952+4323.1	279.96787	43.38568	12.847	12.417	0.430	12.163	0.173	0.094	EW	0.474549	0.57	0.49	
2	184321+4734.7	280.83771	47.57899	12.768	12.388	0.380	12.069	0.137	0.021	EA	0.73455	0.30	0.28	
3	184347+4732.0	280.94540	47.53245	11.900	9.461	2.439	7.999	0.908	0.232	APER		0.37	0.17	see
4	184356+4715.0	280.98364	47.25142	14.000	13.075	0.925	12.328	0.561	0.090	PER	0.293484	0.18	0.06	
5	184408+4426.8	281.03385	44.44747	10.415	9.764	0.651	9.378	0.216	0.079	PER	0.295512	0.02	0.00	11
6	184510+4338.1	281.29237	43.63546	13.095	7.962	5.133	4.432	1.321	0.894	MIRA	502	4.70	2.45	see
7	184518+4240.1	281.32386	42.67001	13.213	12.701	0.512	12.276	0.221	0.020	EW/RRC	0.80771	0.41	0.31	see
8	184555+4707.4	281.48110	47.12268	9.958	9.371	0.587	9.033	0.231	0.011	PER/RRC	0.368780	0.03	0.03	
9	184557+4719.1	281.48725	47.31932	12.405	11.416	0.989	10.890	0.506	0.106	EW	0.428349	0.26	0.25	see
10	184603+4327.5	281.51400	43.45884	10.674	8.126	2.548	6.633	0.908	0.248	QPER	41.91	0.40	0.14	
11	184608+4400.7	281.53366	44.01005	8.447	8	-	4.764	1.060	252	QPER/CEP	29.80	0.29		see
12	184619+4620.8	281.57835	46.34591	10.665	8.366	2.299	6.742	0.862	0.320	QPER	41.23	0.35	0.64	
13	184632+4211.3	281.63346	42.18698	12.635	9.689	2.946	7.792	0.834	0.313	APER	9	0.95	0.71	see
14	184706+4340.6	281.77620	43.67623	11.215	9.958	1.257	9.041	0.580	0.164	QPER/CEP	19.91	0.22	0.20	see
15	184747+4343.7	281,94335	43.72860	12.967	12.216	0.751	11.601	0.427	0.076	EA	3,6137	0.31	0.51	see

Fig. 2. The layout of the table containing catalog entries.

The link on the left-hand side of the table with ASAS ID opens a new page (Fig. 3) containing a header with sequential number, ASAS ID, type of variability and period (if available). On the right-hand side of the header the links to the first (Top), next and previous objects in the list as well as to the full table are available.

Below the header there are panels that show different plots in a form of a table with four columns, two rows and a header. The first row contains data in V, the second, in the I-band. The links to the original ASAS data (Data) and short

information on the format (Info) are given in the first column. The second column contains light curves plotted as a function of heliocentric Julian Day. The data are shown for aperture that displayed the smallest scatter. The scatter depends on the object brightness: aperture "0" (2 pixels wide) is used for V > 14 mag or I > 12 mag and larger apertures for brighter stars, up to aperture "4" (6 pixels wide) for V < 9 mag or I < 7 mag. The aperture number is given in the plot.

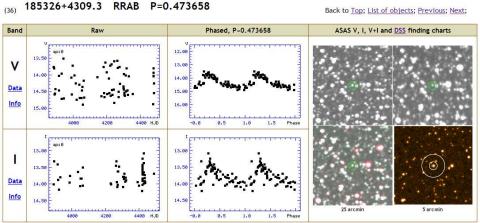


Fig. 3. A sample graphical interface to ASAS data, light curves and finding charts (see text for explanation).

For stars showing (quasi)periodic variability, the phase diagram is also shown in the third column if period was shorter than 150 days. For the remaining stars this column is left blank. Finally, the fourth column contains four finding charts, centered on the variable star position. The first three images,  $25' \times 25'$ , were extracted from the deep (stacked) ASAS V and I images. The third image is color-coded combination of V (green) and I (red) images, that can be useful to identify blends of stars having strongly different colors (e.g. 185650+4757.2 or 190015+3934.7). The fourth image is a  $5' \times 5'$  cut from the Digitized Sky Survey.<sup>‡</sup> Two central circles correspond to the ASAS smallest (2 pixels, 30'' wide) and largest (6 pixels, 90'' wide) photometric apertures.

The table that follows graphics shown in Fig. 3 (not shown in this figure) contains essentially the same entries as the main table of the catalog. The new entry is the 2MASS cross-identification (or a 'BLEND' entry if the identification was not possible due to blending). Also, the remarks, notes and cross-identifications are given explicitly there. Finally, the position of a star in the Kepler field (chip number and position in pixels) for four different orientations of the satellite is provided. The cross-identifications in our catalog were taken from five other sources of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>The Digitized Sky Survey was produced at the Space Telescope Science Institute under U.S. Government grant NAG W-2166. The images of these surveys are based on photographic data obtained using the Oschin Schmidt Telescope on Palomar Mountain and the UK Schmidt Telescope. The plates were processed into the present compressed digital form with the permission of these institutions.

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information on variability in this area of the sky, namely: GCVS, "New Catalog of Suspected Variable Stars", including the Supplement (Kazarovets *et al.* 1998 – star numbers from this catalog are preceded by "NSV"), ROTSE1 catalog (Akerlof *et al.* 2000), Northern Sky Variability Survey (NSVS, Woźniak *et al.* 2004a), red variables (Woźniak *et al.* 2004b) and RR Lyr stars (Wils *et al.* 2006) and Hungarian-made Automated Telescope Network (HATnet) catalog (Hartman *et al.* 2004). The names from the latter catalog are preceded by "HAT199".

#### 4. Variable Stars

The quality of measurements combined with their number resulted in a detection threshold (in the Fourier periodogram) ranging from 0.01 mag to 0.05 mag for stars brighter than  $\approx 11$  mag in I. It was very similar in the V-filter, for stars brighter than  $\approx 12$  mag. This large range in accuracy is mainly the result of different crowding; in general, in less crowded fields the accuracy was better. For fainter stars the detection threshold grows rapidly reaching about 0.15 mag for the faintest stars ( $\approx 15$  mag in V and 14 mag in I). This means that our catalog is quite strongly biased towards variable stars that have large amplitudes. We present below a short summary of the contents of the catalog regarding different types of variable stars emphasizing particularly different pulsating stars. We must, however, stress that the classification we provide is not always unique because the period, amplitude and shape of the light curve were sometimes insufficient to do this unambiguously. For this reason some stars were given double or even triple variability flag, the most probable going first.

Table 1 summarizes the contents of our catalog listing the numbers of stars with a given variability flag. In case of multiple classification, only the first one was considered. Of 947 stars we have in the catalog,  $542 \ (\approx 57\%)$  are new detections. The location of all variable stars in the Kepler FoV we present here is shown in Fig. 4.

The color-magnitude diagrams for variable stars from our catalog are shown in Figs. 5–8. As can be seen in these figures and as was pointed out above, the V magnitudes of these stars fall very well within the range of magnitudes that will be covered by the Kepler satellite. Two groups of stars can be seen in these diagrams. The stars with (V-I) < 1.6 mag are mainly main-sequence stars while the stars with redder colors are mainly red giants.

#### 4.1. Cepheids

The only well-known Cepheid in the Kepler FoV is V1154 Cyg = BV 394 = ASAS 194815+4307.6 = #721 $^{\$}$  (V = 9.2 mag) discovered by Strohmeier (1962). It has a period of 4.93 d. There are 18 stars in our catalog that have "CEP" variability flag assigned, but only six, including V1154 Cyg, were given this flag as the first

<sup>§</sup>The number preceded by a "#" denotes sequential number of a star from our catalog.

 $$T\ a\ b\ l\ e\ 1$$  Number of stars in the catalog with different variability flags assigned

Variability flag (VF)	Number of stars with a given VF	Already known	New
CEP	6	3	3
RRAB	11	9	2
RRC	9	3	6
HADS	4	2	2
EA	51	26	25
EB	12	4	8
$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{W}$	123	35	88
PER	75	12	63
QPER	404	166	238
APER	194	93	101
MIRA	58	52	6
Total	947	405	542

one. These six stars are shown in Fig. 5 as open circles. Not counting V1154 Cyg, they should be regarded as candidates for Cepheids. The best of them seem to be ASAS 192345+5116.2 (#322, P=13.37 d) with V magnitude range clearly larger than I, as expected for Cepheids, and ASAS 192152+4911.9 (P=3.4521 d). However, a new multi-color photometry and/or spectroscopy is highly desirable to verify their variability type, as alternative explanations (e.g. chromospherically active stars) are also possible for these stars. The other stars, if verified as Cepheids, are much more distant than V1154 Cyg (see Fig. 5).

# 4.2. RR Lyr Stars

RR Lyr stars, especially of RRab type, are well recognizable by their non-sinusoidal light curves, large amplitudes and periods of 0.4–0.8 d. There are 11 RRab stars in our catalog, but only two, #24 and #320, are new findings. The remaining ones were discovered in previous searches, mainly ROTSE (Akerlof *et al.* 2000) and NSVS (Wils *et al.* 2006). The RRc stars have smaller amplitudes and shorter periods than RRab ones. In consequence, faint stars (that is, with a less accurate photometry) of this type are not well distinguishable from eclipsing binaries of W UMa type that have equally deep minima. We have 19 stars with "RRC" flag in the catalog, but only nine (six are newly discovered) have this flag given as the first one. The nine most certain RRc and eleven RRab stars are plotted in Fig. 5. As can be seen, except for one RRc star (which might be misclassified EW star) they cover quite a narrow range of (V - I) color. Since extinction and reddening in the Kepler FoV are rather low, their distances reach  $\approx 8$  kpc. These

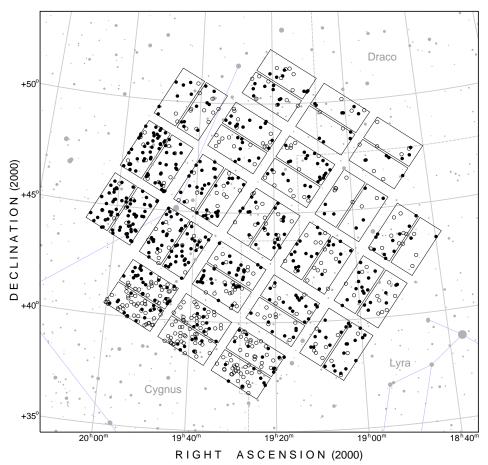


Fig. 4. The  $18^{\rm o} \times 18^{\rm o}$  map of the Kepler FoV located in Cygnus, Lyra and Draco. The rectangles delineate the limits of 42 Kepler CCDs. The stars from our catalog are shown as filled (new) and open (already known variable stars) circles.

are not the farthest RR Lyrae stars in the field as there are  $\approx 30$  known RRab stars in the Kepler FoV with V>15 mag. We do not have them in our catalog because they were too faint to be detected in the ASAS data.

# 4.3. Main-Sequence Pulsators

Main-sequence pulsators ( $\beta$  Cep, SPB,  $\delta$  Sct and  $\gamma$  Dor stars) are potentially very good targets for asteroseismology as they usually have many modes excited. Unfortunately, these modes have typically very small amplitudes, not exceeding several mmag, and therefore hard to detect in our data. The modes observed in the main sequence pulsators have sinusoidal light curves and therefore the shape of the light curve does not help in the classification. There is one exception: evolved  $\delta$  Sct stars that usually show only radial modes having large photometric amplitudes. They are called high-amplitude  $\delta$  Sct (HADS) stars. We have four HADS stars in our catalog, two are new findings. One of them, #717 = ASAS 194803+4146.9, is

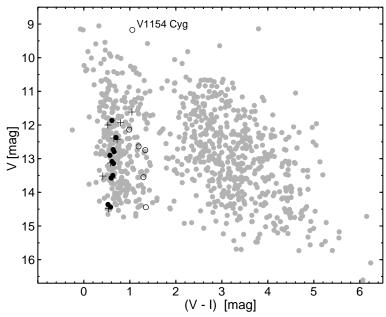


Fig. 5. The color-magnitude, V vs. (V-I), diagram for variable stars from our catalog (gray symbols) with V1154 Cyg (labeled), candidate Cepheids (open circles) and RR Lyrae stars of Bailey type ab (filled circles) and c (plus signs) plotted.

the most interesting one as it shows double-mode behavior with period ratio equal to 0.763, typical for radial first overtone to fundamental period ratio (see, e.g., Pigulski *et al.* 2006).

Not counting the HADS stars, the main sequence pulsators can be sought in our catalog among stars with a "PER" flag. We have divided these stars into three groups according to the period that we detected: (i) stars with periods shorter than 0.3 d (39 stars), (ii) stars with periods in the range between 0.3 and 5 d (28 stars), and (iii) stars with periods longer that 5 d (8 stars). The 0.3-day limit divides the main sequence pulsators into the short-period ( $\beta$  Cep and  $\delta$  Sct) and long-period (SPB,  $\gamma$  Dor) stars. Theoretically, the former stars pulsate mainly with acoustic (p) modes, the latter, with gravity (g) ones. Stars included in group (iii), if their variability is at all due to pulsations, are rather not main sequence stars. Distinguishing  $\beta$  Cep from  $\delta$  Sct stars or SPB from  $\gamma$  Dor is, however, rather impossible using only the ASAS photometry. Additional information like spectral type would be conclusive in this case.

There is, in fact, a little chance that any star in our catalog is a  $\beta$  Cep-type pulsator. One reason has been already explained; this is large-amplitude bias in our catalog. The other reason is that Kepler FoV is located at intermediate Galactic latitudes. On the other hand,  $\beta$  Cep-type stars are intrinsically bright, with absolute magnitudes  $M_V < -2.5$  mag. If a  $\beta$  Cep star is nearby, it will be saturated in the ASAS images. If not, it has to be located at a large distance from the Galactic plane. This, in turn, is rather unlikely as these stars are massive and young and except

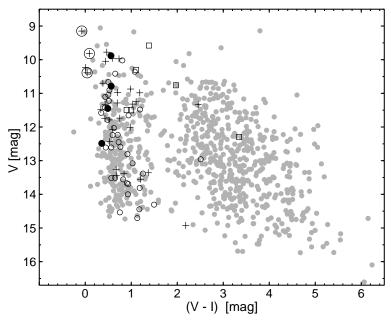


Fig. 6. The same as in Fig. 5, but for the candidates for main-sequence pulsators. The following groups of stars were distinguished: HADS stars (filled circles), stars classified as periodic variable ("PER") with periods shorter than 0.3 d (open circles), with periods between 0.3 and 5 days (plus signs), and periods longer than 5 days (open squares). Three likely SPB stars are shown as encircled plus signs.

for runaway stars are expected to be located near star-forming regions, i.e., in the Galactic disk. In consequence,  $\beta$  Cephei stars in the Kepler FoV can be expected only in those parts of this field which are located closest to the Galactic plane where the absorption is high and distant stars are still quite close to the Galactic plane. The short-period variable stars in our catalog, shown in Fig. 6 with open circles, are therefore mainly  $\delta$  Scuti stars which are intrinsically fainter than  $\beta$  Cep stars.

Next, it has to be noted that some short-period stars in our catalog classified as 'PER', might be spurious detections. The reason for this is the distribution of data, already commented in Section 2. For the ASAS data, the consecutive data points are typically separated by 2–4 days. The corresponding Nyquist frequency is therefore very low, much lower than the pulsation frequencies of  $\delta$  Scuti stars. Fortunately, the data points are not evenly distributed in time. In consequence, the Nyquist frequency loses its meaning and we are able to indicate the correct frequency of pulsation (the ambiguity due to daily aliases remains though) in the Fourier amplitude spectrum. However, some consequences of this distribution of data remain. One of them is that spurious high frequencies may sometimes appear above of the adopted threshold in the Fourier periodograms of the ASAS data. For this reason, we initiated a follow-up program carrying out multi-color photometry aimed at verifying the short-period variability of stars in the Kepler FoV. The result of this program will be published elsewhere.

There are very few stars among those shown in Fig. 6 that have UBV photometry or spectral types available which can be used to make the final classification of the variability. A spectroscopic low-resolution follow up of these stars would be highly desirable as the four types of main sequence pulsators under consideration can be easily separated using the observed periods and spectral types. For several stars, however, the MK spectral types were already obtained. In particular, two stars can be reliably classified as SPB stars. The first one is HD 176562 = #71 = ASAS 185900+4115.9 (P = 0.76366 d) classified as B6 Vs by Dworetsky et al. (1982). The color indices provided by the same authors (B-V=-0.11,U-B=-0.50) also indicate that it is unreddened mid-B star. The other SPB star is BD  $+43^{\circ}3223 = \#293 = \text{ASAS} 192135 + 4403.0 \ (P = 1.10146 \ d)$ . This star is classified by MacRae (1952) as B8. A few other stars have spectral types in Harvard classification indicating that they are likely SPB stars. The best example is HD 226795 = #896 = ASAS 195725 + 4038.1 (P = 1.7015 d) which was given spectral type B8 by Cannon (1925). The three likely SPB stars are shown in Fig. 6 with encircled symbols. As can be seen, they are among the brightest and bluest objects in our catalog.

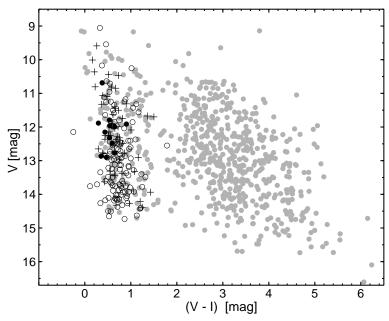


Fig. 7. The same as in Fig. 5, but for eclipsing binaries classified as EA (plus signs), EB (filled circles), and EW (open circles).

# 4.4. Eclipsing Binaries

There are over 180 eclipsing binaries in our catalog, mostly classified as EW, i.e., presumably contact binaries of W UMa type. They are shown in Fig. 7. As expected, they are mostly located in the left-hand part of this diagram because the

components (at least the primaries) of these binaries are mostly main sequence stars. The three brightest eclipsing binaries in Fig. 7 are new variables: #231 = ASAS 191638+4805.8 (V = 9.06), #129 = ASAS 190700+4632.3 (V = 9.54) and #289 = ASAS 192112+4758.7 (V = 9.59).

# 4.5. Long-Period Variable Stars

The long-period variable stars, i.e. stars which we classified as APER, QPER and MIRA form the most numerous group of stars in our catalog. All but few stars with (V-I)>1.6 mag (Fig. 8) belong to this group. The location of Miras in Fig. 8 is not well defined because we use simply a mean in each filter which is not good for variable with such large amplitudes as Miras.

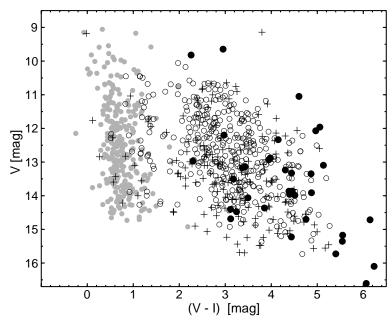


Fig. 8. The same as in Fig. 5, but for long-period variables: Miras (filled circles), quasi-periodic (open circles) and aperiodic (plus signs) stars.

While Miras (58 in our catalog) are easily recognizable due to their large amplitudes, this is not the case for the remaining long-period variable stars. These stars are predominantly red giants or supergiants. They have recently been systematized by Soszyński *et al.* (2007) using OGLE observations of Magellanic Clouds and diagrams where Wesenheit indices are plotted *vs.* log(period). Owing to the small absorption towards the Magellanic Clouds and nearly the same distance of stars in each of them, red variables form well-defined sequences in these diagrams. They can be in most cases explained by different types of pulsations and/or binarity. Unfortunately, similar diagrams for the the long-period variable stars in our catalog does not form such sequences because they are smeared effectively by different distances of stars.

# 5. Conclusions

The catalog we make available in the present paper is a response for the need to have an homogeneous variability survey in the whole Kepler FoV that could be used in the selection of targets for the Kepler satellite, especially for the asteroseismic part of its program. Due to the limited number of observations gathered up-to-date in the ASAS3-North station, the catalog is quite strongly biased towards high-amplitude variable stars. The observations of the Kepler FoV are continued, however, and future analysis should allow to discover stars with much smaller amplitudes than presented here. Next, some follow-up programs are needed to verify classification we made, especially for the main-sequence pulsators (see Section 4.3). Both multi-color photometry and low-resolution spectroscopy would be desirable. The CCD photometry with telescope(s) having much better spatial resolution than the ASAS3 equipment would also allow to decide in many cases which star is variable. The need for such a photometry comes from the fact that contamination by nearby stars might be in many cases a severe problem and affect the aperture photometry which is obtained from the ASAS frames. Finally, the areas located relatively close to the Galactic plane should be monitored because probability of finding hot pulsators is the largest in this part of the Kepler FoV. The first followup program of this kind has already been started. Results of these observations will be presented in a separate paper.

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